

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of enabling file sharing over a serverless peer-to-peer computer network among members of a shared space peer-to-peer group comprising a first user and at least one other user, the method comprising:

displaying, to [[the]] a first member of the shared space peer-to-peer group user via a first user graphical display associated with a first computing device in the serverless peer-to-peer computer network, a shared space indicator including a first folder object,

the first folder object associated with the shared space peer-to-peer group and enabled to contain one or more shared file objects,

the shared space peer-to-peer group comprising a shared space peer-to-peer group owner, a first folder object owner, the first user member of the shared space peer-to-peer group and [[the]] at least one other member of the shared space peer-to-peer group user wherein the first user is not an owner of the shared space and the at least one other user is not the owner of the shared space group;

displaying to the first user member of the shared space peer-to-peer group for selection a set of folder system operations including: create folder object, rename folder object, delete folder object, hide folder object, show hidden folder object, change folder object setting, replicate file setting, and specify new content of folder object;

receiving from the first user member of the shared space peer-to-peer group a first request to perform one from the set of folder system operations with respect to the first folder object;

performing the first requested folder system operation; and

sending a direct communication from the first user member of the shared space peer-to-peer group over the serverless peer-to-peer network to a second computing device used by the at least one other user member of the shared space peer-to-peer group that has permission to receive the communication to indicate that the first folder object has been modified by the first user member of the shared space peer-to-peer group after such folder system operation has been performed, wherein a graphical representation of the first folder object modification is displayed on the second computing device used by the at least one other member of the shared space peer-to-peer group user.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising presenting a graphical representation of the first requested folder system operation to the first user member of the shared space peer-to-peer group in response to receiving the folder system operation first request.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) A method for updating a shared file in a computer network including a group of communicating computing devices in a peer-to-peer network, the method comprising

performing, at a first computing device, a file system operation on a shared file associated with a first file icon corresponding to the shared file displayed in a first shared space display area to generate an updated shared file;

creating, at the first computing device, metadata associated with the updated shared file;

directly propagating, by the first computing device to a second computing device that has permission, the metadata associated with the updated shared file;

obtaining, by the second computing device, the metadata associated with the updated shared file;

determining, by the second computing device based on a file replication setting, whether the updated shared file should be replicated on the second computing device, comprising:

if the file replication setting indicates an on-demand basis, downloading, by the second computing device from multiple computing devices of the group, portions of the updated shared file upon receiving a user-demanded file replication indication, and

if the file replication setting indicates automatic replication, automatically downloading, by the second computing device from multiple computing devices of the group, portions of the updated shared file,

wherein the multiple computing devices of the group are selected based upon at least one from a set of routing factors comprising: IP address and least routing time; and

displaying a second file icon corresponding to the shared file in a second shared space display area of the second computing device indicating that the shared file has been updated.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of displaying, by the second computing device, a third file icon corresponding to the shared file in the second shared space display area indicating that the shared file has not been updated when the updated shared file should not be replicated on the second computing device.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the third file icon provides indication that an update to the shared file exists.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the first shared space display area is a folder object.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first folder object is a shared space folder object corresponding to the shared space peer-to-peer group, and the method shared space group further comprises the owner of the shared space group and the method further comprises further comprises:

performing the rename folder object operation only if an owner request to perform the rename folder operation is received from the shared space peer-to-peer group owner; and

if an owner request to perform the delete folder object operation is received from the shared space peer-to-peer group owner, performing the delete folder object operation and:

prohibiting alteration of one or more shared space peer-to-peer group properties by members of the shared space peer-to-peer group other than the shared space peer-to-peer group owner,

preventing new members from being invited to join the shared space peer-to-peer group, and

maintaining access, for the members of the shared space peer-to-peer group other than the shared space peer-to-peer group owner the first and the at least one other user, to the shared space folder object first folder and contents of the first folder.

13. (New) A method for updating a shared file in a computer network including a group of communicating computing devices in a peer-to-peer network, the method comprising

performing, at a first computing device, a file system operation on a shared file associated with a first file icon corresponding to the shared file displayed in a first shared space display area to generate an updated shared file;

creating, at the first computing device, metadata associated with the updated shared file;

directly propagating, by the first computing device to a second computing device that has permission, the metadata associated with the updated shared file;

obtaining, by the second computing device, the metadata associated with the updated shared file;

determining, by the second computing device, whether the updated shared file should be replicated on the second computing device, the determining based on a file replication setting of the second computing device, the file replication setting selected by a user of the second computing device, comprising:

if the file replication setting indicates an on-demand basis, downloading, by the second computing device from multiple computing devices of the group, portions of the updated shared file upon receiving a user-demanded file replication indication, and

if the file replication setting indicates automatic replication, automatically downloading, by the second computing device from multiple computing devices of the group, portions of the updated shared file,

wherein the multiple computing devices of the group from which the portions of the updated shared file are automatically downloaded are selected based on a closeness of each multiple computing device to the second computing device, the closeness based on of at least one of: IP address or least routing time;

displaying a second file icon corresponding to the shared file in a second shared space display area of the second computing device indicating that the shared file has been updated; and

displaying, by the second computing device, a third file icon corresponding to the shared file in the second shared space display area indicating that the shared file has not been updated when the updated shared file should not be replicated on the second computing device, wherein the third file icon provides an indication that an update to the shared file exists in the peer-to-peer network.

14. (New) The method of claim 13, further comprising providing a user interface at the second computing device wherein:

the user interface includes the file replication setting, and

via the user interface, the user is enabled to select the file replication setting of the second computing device.

15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein providing a user interface at the second computing device comprises providing the user interface at the second computing device, wherein:

the user interface further includes a display contributor name with files setting, and

via the display contributor name with files setting, the user is enabled to select whether or not a contributor name corresponding to the updated shared file is displayed with a filename of the updated shared file.

16. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein providing a user interface at the second computing device comprises providing the user interface at the second computing device wherein:

the user interface further includes a members contribution setting, and

via the members contribution setting, the user is enabled to select whether or not members of the group have permission to contribute any shared content to the group.

17. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein providing a user interface at the second computing device comprises providing the user interface at the second computing device, wherein:

the user interface further includes a new content setting, and
via the new content setting, the user is enabled to select a time interval within which a given content is defined as being new.